



Notes from 11-10-25 Quarterly Meeting

Public Engagement Team-Jennifer Lombard

- **September:** “Stand Up and Stand Out” recognition went to **SOFR** and **Tressie Hansen**.
- **October:** Recognition focused on **local schools** for **Red Ribbon Week** participation. Over 20 volunteers present!
- **November:** Featured **Logansport Skate World & Fun Center**.
- **October:** Sector Spotlight Media, Michelle Dials.
- **November:** Sector Spotlight Parent, Natalie Sharp
- Participated in **Scarecrow Row** with a **Red Ribbon Week** theme.
- Continued **regular drop-in activities**.
- **VIVE 18** delivered sessions at **Lewis Cass (2)** and **Pioneer (1)** — **sponsored by 4C**.
- Ongoing participation in the **county-wide RED initiative** (Nikki).
- Joined **Live United Day**, **IYI Café (September)**, **QPR for Youth and Families**, and **Oktoberfest** — with thanks to volunteers for their help. Supported **Suicide Prevention event in Walton** (Health Department provided DAP trailer). **Safety Night** participation.
- Launched **Partners in Action program** at the Academy. **Howl at the Moon**.

Red Ribbon Week Activities:

- Community **coloring contest**.
- **Ribbons downtown** and in **parks** (thanks to Parks Department).
- **Scarecrow display**, **satin ribbons**, **lanyards**, **giveaways**, and **yard signs**.
- **School contests** and **Red Ribbon Breakfast**.
- Attended **Grant Writing Workshop – Day 1**.
- Presented at **PTECH**
- Hosted **Tabling Events 101** (notes available on drive).
- Hosted Youth Worker Cafe training with ULEAD on 9/16
- Upcoming: Youth Worker Cafe- March 11th on Digital Safety
- We have ‘proud member of’ certificates, please let us know if you have not received one.

Youth Empowerment Team-Chris Hess

- Supported and participated in shared community and school events mentioned under the Public Engagement report, including **Red Ribbon Week**, **VIVE 18 sessions**, and **Partners in Action** activities.
- Discussed **rethinking meeting style, time, and location** to make gatherings more youth-friendly and accessible.
- Emphasized the **need for more youth participation** to bring fresh perspectives and input to planning and decision-making.

- **Youth testimonies** have been shared on social media from our summer program — appreciation for those submitted; **more are needed** to highlight real voices and experiences.
- Discussed **chronic absenteeism**, briefly, though limited youth attendance made it difficult to gather meaningful feedback.
- Identified interest in having youth **assist with short videos and reels** for social media and potentially the **website**, to help amplify youth messaging and outreach.

Youth Substance Prevention Team- Kacy Hopper

- Continued providing “**No Smoke / Vape**” **stickers** to local organizations and businesses; still have some available for distribution.
- Started to distribute “**We Card**” **digital boxes** to local retailers selling tobacco products to support responsible sales practices.
- Completed **most of the surveys** for the **Environmental Scan** project — nearing full completion and analysis.
- Participated in **Oktoberfest**, placed in the **Kid/Family Friendly Area** — an exciting outcome that reflects a key recommendation from the **DORA Safety Plan** encouraging alcohol-event hosts to include safe, family-oriented spaces.
- Significant focus on **Red Ribbon Week planning and preparation** this fall.
- Selected the **mural contest winner** and coordinated **giveaway deliveries** to schools.
- **Red Ribbon materials** (ribbons, giveaways, breakfast) were made possible through **County Opioid Settlement Funding** and **community sponsors** — a new collaboration this year.
- Nikki and Kacy placed **Red Ribbons downtown**, though time constraints limited wider coverage.
- Adjusted meeting schedule from **twice monthly to once a month** to accommodate workload and scheduling.
- Developing **infographics of success** to share with the community — part of a broader coalition effort for each team to highlight achievements and impact.

Action Plan Prevention Team- Cardiel Cabrera

- **Attended the VIVE18 presentation**, gaining insight into youth engagement and prevention strategies.
- Shared the **nonprofit contact spreadsheet** for coalition partners and invited others to be added; plan to **share with media contact, Michelle Dials**, to strengthen community connections.
- Created a **volunteer tracking spreadsheet** for members to sign up for upcoming **events and activities** where extra help is needed.
- **Finalized the first draft of the Coalition Bylaws** — printed copies distributed for review and feedback.
- Discussed the possibility of **hosting future meetings at the Academy** during the **Partners in Action** program to increase collaboration and visibility.
- Completed the **final version of the Resource Guide**, with printing support from **Area 5, SOFR**, and the **Health Department**.

- Copies were distributed to **first responders**.
 - A **digital version is available in the shared drive** for easy reprinting and public access.
- Continued **review of the coalition’s Action Plan** at each meeting to track progress and update priorities.
 - Encouraged all teams to develop **infographics** showcasing key accomplishments and community impact for broader outreach.
 - **Held the September meeting at the Park**, providing a more relaxed and community-centered setting.
 - **Represented the coalition at a ribbon cutting event**, strengthening community presence and partnerships.
 - **Chris** suggested that sending **personal invitations** may help increase youth attendance at meetings.
 - Several strategies were discussed to enhance youth participation:
 - Reach out directly to **school sponsors, club advisors, and counselors** to connect with students already involved in leadership or service programs.
 - Consider a **rotating meeting schedule** at various schools to make attendance more convenient.
 - Conduct **surveys for teachers and youth** to assess their awareness of the coalition, provide background on coalition activities, and gather feedback on how to better engage them.
 - Use survey results to **set youth engagement goals** and determine how best to support youth leadership development.
 - **Visit schools during breakfast periods**, especially at Logansport where breakfast is free, to meet students in an informal setting.
 - Create a **survey on preferred meeting times** to accommodate both youth and adult participants.
 - Encourage the **Youth Substance Prevention Team (YSPT)** to **recruit youth volunteers** to assist with outreach and coalition activities.
- The coalition reviewed the **draft Bylaws**. Members are encouraged to **submit suggestions to Nikki** for incorporation into the next version.
 - The **Action Plan Team** led the drafting process using a **template customized for Stand Up Cass County**.
 - A **Bylaws Committee** may be formed to assist with revisions and ensure alignment with long-term goals.
 - The coalition’s **goal for Years 6–10** (if awarded the **DFC Grant Notice of Award**) is to establish **Stand Up Cass County as its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization**.
 - Discussed a **branding and ownership concern** with **AcesPlus**, which is claiming **intellectual ownership of the coalition’s logo and website**. The coalition noted that it paid several thousand dollars for these materials during AcesPlus’s involvement in early branding and website creation. The **“Stand Up Cass County” name** remains the property of the coalition, but logo rights may need to be addressed formally once the outcome of the DFC Grant is known.